

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065796

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, UK, PDEV

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MUZOREWA AND ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE

1. ALL OF THE OTHER PRINCIPALS TO THE RHODESIAN DISPUTE
HAVE BEEN APPROACHED CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF AN
ALL-PARTIES MEETING. THOUGH THIS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IN
GENERAL TERMS WITH BISHOP MUZOREWA, WE HAVE NOT OUTLINED
IN ANY DETAIL OUR THINKING ON THIS MATTER.

2. WE HAVE AGREED WITH THE BRITISH THAT USUN WOULD
UNDERTAKE TO CONTACT MUZOREWA. ACCORDING TO THE UANC
OFFICE IN NEW YORK (RAZEMBA), THE BISHOP WILL RETURN TO
NEW YORK CITY ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND DEPART SAME
EVENING OR FOLLOWING DAY FOR LONDON. UK EMBASSY HERE
KNOWS OF NO PLANS FOR MUZOREWA TO MEET WITH FCO OFFICIALS.
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3. DEPT. BELIEVES THAT APPROACH TO MUZOREWA SHOULD MOST
PROBABLY BE MADE BY AMBASSADOR MCHENRY, BUT WE LEAVE
THAT QUESTION TO USUN'S DISCRETION.

4. THE APPROACH SHOULD BE COUCHED IN THE CONDITIONAL.
WE ARE NOT AT THIS TIME ISSUING INVITATIONS, BUT RATHER

SOUNDING THE PARTIES OUT AS TO THEIR POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE
OF THE IDEA OF A CONFERENCE. THE FOLLOWING POINTS

SHOULD BE MADE.

-- AS PRESIDENT CARTER SAID IN HIS ANNOUNCEMENT ON 9
MARCH AND DOCTOR OWEN CONFIRMED ON 10 MARCH, THE BRITISH
AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS NOW HOPE TO HOLD A MEETING OF
ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE SALISBURY TALKS AND THE
MALTA MEETING TO TRY TO REACH A COMMON POSITION. DOCTOR
OWEN IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERING INVITING THE PARTIES TO
MEET ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS. IT IS COMMON GROUND THAT:

A. ZIMBABWE MUST BECOME INDEPENDENT IN 1978;

B. THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE BE ELECTED BY UNIVERSAL
ADULT SUFFRAGE;

C. ELECTIONS MUST BE CONDUCTED FREELY AND FAIRLY.

-- ACCORDINGLY, THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS,
WHICH ON 1 SEPTEMBER PUT FORWARD PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO
GIVE EFFECT TO THESE PRINCIPLES, WOULD INVITE ALL THE
PARTIES TO THE MALTA AND SALISBURY TALKS TO MEET WITH A
VIEW TO WIDENING THE AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND ESTABLISH AN
ACCEPTABLE MACHINERY FOR THESE COMMON OBJECTIVES.
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-- SINCE IT IS URGENT THAT WE BEGIN TO WORK TOWARDS A
SATISFACTORY SOLUTION, WE WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE WHETHER YOU WOULD CONSIDER PARTICI-
PATING IN SUCH A MEETING.

5. WE HAVE TOLD THE BRITISH EMBASSY THAT ONCE AN
APPOINTMENT WITH THE BISHOP IS ARRANGED USUN WILL
CONTACT UKUN TO DETERMINE WHETHER A BRITISH OFFICER
WISHES TO ACCOMPANY THE AMERICAN OFFICIAL MAKING THE
APPROACH. VANCE

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